SHADOW RAIDERS I

Episode 4
'Bad To The Bone'

ENGLISH DIALOGUE SCRIPT

An Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc. Company

Alliance Atlantis Television Distribution
184-192 Drummond Street - 2nd floor . London . NW1 3HP . United Kingdom
Tel: +44.207.391.6900 ~ Fax: +44.207.383.5432

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. BONE ORBIT - DAY

Cryos' flagship THE AURORA moves into orbit around PLANET BONE. Suddenly, it crosses paths with a BEAST DRONE SHIP also in orbit around the planet.

INT. THE AURORA - CONTINUOUS

JADE spins away from her console, where she sees the Beast ship on a viewscreen.

JADE
(1) Graveheart! Check out the monitors.

GRAVEHEART rushes over to the console.

GRAVEHEART
(2) Beast Drones! Must be an invasion force.

CRYOS spins in his chair.

CRYOS
(3) I've an open channel to Planet Bone, but I've been unable to reach anyone.

GRAVEHEART
(4) Keep trying. They have to be warned.

PYRUS rushes up to Graveheart.

PYRUS
(5) What can I do?

GRAVEHEART
(6) Get yourself belted in...things may get rough.

Jade looks to Graveheart and smiles.

JADE
(7) I was hoping you'd say that.

Jade works her console, powering up the weapons.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE AURORA - CONTINUOUS

The weapons on the Aurora power up.

CUT TO:

INT. THE AURORA - CONTINUOUS

JADE
(8) Just give the word.

Before Graveheart can speak, we hear a voice over the console. *Note* FEMUR speaks with his Wizard of OZ voice. - Baritone Deep Echo, with a hint of the usual FEMUR voice.*

FEMUR (FILTERED) (VO)
(9) No, let me. Stand down!

Jade looks at Graveheart. After a beat, he nods to her. Jade angrily snaps off the weapons control.

EMPEROR FEMUR appears in a floating hologram with his face in shadow. (a la Oz)

FEMUR (FILTERED)
(10) Much better. Now, what do you want?

GRAVEHEART
(11) We're here to help. There's an invasion force poised to attack your planet.

FEMUR (FILTERED)
(12) We don't need your help and we're quite aware of the forces beyond our world.

Graveheart and Cryos look at each other, surprised. He does?

FEMUR (FILTERED) (CONT'D)
(13) Still, if you wish, you can come to the palace and discuss this matter further.

GRAVEHEART
(14) Your kindness is appreciated.

FEMUR (FILTERED)
(ominous)
(15) It had better be.

CUT TO:

EXT. EMPEROR'S PALACE - DAY

Establishing shot of Planet Bone. The Aurora settles on the ground. The palace doors swing open and our four heroes look down a long corridor (the scene mimics the Wizard Of Oz when they go to see the wizard in his palace).

GRAVEHEART
(18) How well do you know the Emperor?

CRYOS
(19) Well enough to know that his arrogance is exceeded only by his ego.

JADE
(20) Sounds like a real charmer.

INT. THRONE ROOM - MINUTES LATER

Dramatically lit, PELVUS stands before an elevated IRIS in the wall that appears to be composed of flower petals. In a moment, we'll discover they're actually tongues.

PELVUS
(150) Kneel and Bow, Lesser beings, before the awesome power that awaits you...

Favouring the IRIS -as it opens, the petals bending out so we can see now that they are tongues. One of the Tongues forms a SLIDE to the floor.

PELVUS (cont'd)
(151) Tremble before the savage might that conquered a thousand planets...prostrate yourselves before him whose name may be spoken only in whispers...

Now FEMUR himself comes sliding down the tongue dramatically.

PELVUS (cont'd)
(152) Behold the infinite terror that is...Femur, Emperor of Bone!
(sotto, twirling a finger)
Yay.

PYRUS
Now this is the way a king should live.

CRYOS
I find it excessive, even by Femurs standards.

Femur lands on his feet with a dramatic flourish.

FEMUR
(24) What can I say? I love a big entrance.
(a beat as he looks at Cryos)

CRYOS
Femur, this is not the time for theatrics.

FEMUR
Well, well, well. If it ain't the Frost King himself. Whatcha doin' here, Cryos? Slummin'?

CRYOS
(25) Obviously.

GRAVEHEART
(interrupting)
(26) Emperor Femur, your planet is in grave danger and--

Femur squints at Graveheart.

FEMUR
(interrupting)
(27) Excuse me. Do I know you?

GRAVEHEART
(28) Name's Graveheart.

FEMUR
(29) Sorry. It ain't ringing any bells.

CRYOS
(30) You may not know my comrades but you would be wise to listen. The Beast Planet is a threat to us all.

A section of shadow detaches from the wall, revealing itself to be LAMPREY with a contingent of BEAST DRONES.

LAMPREY
(31) No greater threat than Bones enemies united.

PYRUS
(32) Beast Drones! We've been burned!

Jade grabs Femur by the throat, lifting him to eye level.

JADE
(33) If you think you can trap us, toad...

FEMUR (STRANGLED VOICE)
(34) No trap! No trap! Lamprey's a guest, just like you.

LAMPREY
(35) Indeed. I offer my own alliance, to help defend this fine planet from your constant raids.

GRAVEHEART
(36) Your own Alliance..!?

PYRUS
(37) You've got to be kidding.

FEMUR (STRANGLED VOICE)
(38) I'm willing to consider counter-offers.

Jade reluctantly puts Femur back on the ground.

GRAVEHEART
(39) Emperor Femur, you don't understand. You can't reason with emissaries of the Beast.

The Emperor rubs his throat and continues.

FEMUR
(40) Yeah, well, I'm a reasonable man... and I'm willing to deal. But don't worry, until I decide, You're all my welcome guests.

A contingent of BONE GUARDS appear to punctuate his point as Femur winks suggestively at Jade and puts a hand around her waist.

FEMUR
(41) Think you and me can make a deal in private, toots?

JADE
(42) Your hand. Remove it or lose it.

Jade pushes away and walks off. Femur smiles and watches.

FEMUR
(43) Oooo! Feisty. I like that in a dame.

WIPE TO:

EXT. BANQUET HALL - LATER

PELVUS is standing outside the doors to the Banquet Hall with some Bone guards. He is examining some large carts of food. He is about to add some powder to one of the trays when Femur walks up. Pelvus nervously snaps to attention.

PELVUS
(44) Grand Exalted Ruler of the Known Universe and All Points South, How good to see you.

FEMUR
(45) Yeah. I bet.

PELVUS
(46) Pelvus lives but to serve you, Lord. I was just making sure everything is perfect. The food looks delicious.

FEMUR
(suspiciously)
(47) Then why don't you taste it first?

Pelvus reacts nervously. Pyrus runs up and joins them.

PYRUS
(48) Hey! Am I late? Have I missed all the fun?

FEMUR
(49) Nope. I'd say the fun's just about to start.

As Femur is talking he pushes open the door. Just as he enters, a glass flies over his head and explodes on the wall.

Inside, Graveheart is holding Jade back from attacking Lamprey.

Femur enters with Pyrus. Pelvus and the Bone guards push in the dinner carts.

FEMUR
(50) Is this a party or what?

All eyes turn to Femur.

FEMUR
(51) Everybody. Sit. Eat. Try the canolies. They're delicious.

JADE
(indicating Lamprey)
(52) I refuse to sit with... that!

Femur moves between the two women.

FEMUR
(53) Ahh, girls. Fighting over me?

CRYOS
(54) Femur, how can you trivialize the greatest danger ever to face our worlds?

FEMUR
(55) Hey, up to a week ago, my greatest danger was you, old buddy.

LAMPREY
(56) And he still is. That is why Beast and Bone must work together.

GRAVEHEART
(57) Our Alliance offers freedom and survival to the people of Bone.

LAMPREY
(58) They care nothing for your world, my lord. It is just one of their many deceptions.

CRYOS
(59) Before you decide...

FEMUR
(60) I already decided.

He points at the astonished Cryos and his comrades.

FEMUR (CONT'D)
(61) Guards! Arrest 'em!
(to Pyrus)
Sorry, kid...Fun's over.

FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. PALACE - MOMENTS LATER

We're on the outside looking at a large stained glass window at the palace entrance. Suddenly it EXPLODES OUTWARD as Pyrus, Graveheart, Jade and Cryos jump through it.

GRAVEHEART
(62) C'mon. We have to hurry. The guards are right behind us.

PYRUS
(63) Wow, Cryos! I can't believe you did that to Femur.

CRYOS
(64) It seemed appropriate at the time.

CUT TO:

INT - BANQUET HALL - FOLLOWING

Pelvus pulls a cream pie plate off of Femur's face as Lamprey watches.

FEMUR
(65) You gotta to hand it to Cryos. I didn't think he had it in him.
(to Pelvus)
(66) You missed a spot.
(to Lamprey)
(67) Okay, what's next... partner.

LAMPREY
(68) Let's talk about protection.

Lamprey leans in, Femur leers and smirks.

CUT TO:

EXT. EMPEROR'S PALACE - FOLLOWING

Our heroes approach their ship, which is protected by a squad of GUARDS.

JADE
(69) If I ever get my hands on that scaley runt...

GRAVEHEART
(70) You might not have to. There's no way he'll survive an alliance with Lamprey.

Pyrus reacts to this and, as Graveheart, Jade and Cryos stealthily proceed toward their ship, he slips away on a mission of his own.

CUT TO:

EXT. BONE LANDSCAPE - LATER

Outside the palace, a gigantic machine in the first stages of fabrication rise from the ground. Lamprey is unaware that Femur is watching her as she supervises a group of BEAST DRONES in the construction.

LAMPREY
(71) Be careful! Or I'll send you screaming back to the void!

Lamprey turns around and notices Femur. She smiles sweetly.

LAMPREY (CONT'D)
(72) Dear Emperor! Welcome to the salvation of your world. Your very own forcefield generator.

FEMUR
(73) Is that what this thing is?

LAMPREY
(74) Yes. It shields your world and protects you from your enemies.

FEMUR
(75) Yeah, and I'm sure it lasts longer than most of my deodorants. Let me know when its finished.

Femur departs, just missing a HOLOGRAPHIC communication from BLOKK to Lamprey.

LAMPREY
(76) Were you listening?

BLOKK
(77) Yes, and he's a bigger fool than I imagined.

LAMPREY
(78) Our generator will drain the life from the planet. By the time you arrive, it will be helpless.

Lamprey almost SMILES.

LAMPREY (cont'd)
(79) See how well things work out when you play it my way?

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAYS - CONTINUOUS

Avoiding various GUARDS, Pyrus heads towards the throne room.

INT. THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Pyrus quietly enters the throne room and is greeted by Femur.

FEMUR
(80) Whats'a matter, kid? Forget your teddy bear?

PYRUS
(81) Just tell me you haven't joined forces with the Beast Planet yet.

FEMUR
(82) Well I haven't signed the paperwork yet, if that's what you mean.

PYRUS
(83) Then there's still time.

PYRUS (cont'd)
(84) Look, my people raided your planet for its resources. The Beast Planet destroys for the sheer pleasure of it. Lamprey is pure evil.

FEMUR
(85) Yeah, she does seem a little bloodthirsty at times...

PYRUS
(86) Your planet and the Alliance, we could trade -- work together. The only thing the Beast wants is your lives.

Lamprey enters, flanked by a pair of BEAST DRONES.

LAMPREY
(87) Emperor, I need to requisition --
(sees Pyrus)
What is the Alliance brat doing here?

FEMUR
(88) Take it easy, sweetheart. You lost him, I found him.

LAMPREY
(to Drones)
(89) Take the child to my chambers.

(to Femur)
Sorry to lose my temper. It's just that...the boy...he's...dangerous.

FEMUR
(90) Yeah. To teenage girls.
(to Pyrus)
You should have ran when you had the chance, kid.

PYRUS
(91) I couldn't. I thought I could change your mind.

FEMUR
(shaking his head)
(92) Crazy hothead. Just like his father.

CUT TO:

EXT. CRYOS' SHIP - FOLLOWING

Outside the ship's entrance are a pair of unconscious GUARDS to the ground outside their ship.

INT. CRYOS' SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Jade wipes her hands and she goes to sit next to the others at the ship's console

JADE
(93) It felt good to hit something.

CRYOS
(94) Indeed. Now, however, it is time to contact the Alliance.

Our heroes seat themselves and engage the transceiver.

GRAVEHEART
(95) Anyone know where Pyrus is?

JADE
(96) I thought he was with you.

CRYOS
(97) Well, I suggest we find him, and quickly. His Vizier will want to know why he is missing.

GRAVEHEART
(98) Maybe he won't notice.

WIPE TO:

INT. PLANET FIRE - PALACE CHAMBER - FOLLOWING

The Vizier is in mid-communication with our heroes, who appear as small holographic figures floating in front of him.

VIZIER
(99) Where is my prince, insect?

CRYOS
(100) In a moment. What have you learned?

VIZIER
(101) Our scouts report an armada of Beast Drone Ships converging on Bone space.

CRYOS
(102) Not unexpected.

VIZIER
(103) Have you obtained that fool Femur's assistance?

CRYOS
(104) Not quite yet. In fact, he appears to have betrayed us to the Beast.

VIZIER
(105) I warned the Prince this would happen.

The Vizier leans forward towards the holograms.

VIZIER (CONT'D)
(106) Now where is he?

GRAVEHEART
(107) You're not going to believe this but...

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM HALLWAY - FOLLOWING

Beast Drones escort Pyrus down the long hallway.

CUT TO:

EXT. BONE LANDSCAPE - FOLLOWING

Lamprey finishes construction of the generator, which HUMS with power, then she turns to speak with a Blokk HOLOGRAM.

LAMPREY
(108) Forcefield is on line, Blokk! Lead those dogs to their doom!

EXT. BLOKK'S SHIP - CONTINUOUS

The Beast armada is ahead of the Alliance fleet, composed of ships from both Ice and Fire, as they approach Bone.

BLOKK (VO)
(109) Already under way.

EXT. BONE LANDSCAPE - CONTINUOUS

LAMPREY
(110) Hold course. I'm engaging the field!

EXT. PLANET BONE - CONTINUOUS

Lamprey engages the field, which surrounds the planet with a sphere of glowing energy. The Beast ships pass harmlessly through, while the lead Alliance vessels EXPLODE on impact. The remaining Alliance ships veer off.

RESUME BONE LANDSCAPE - CONTINUOUS

Femur stands a short distance away from the generator, watching as the Alliance ships EXPLODE in the sky overhead.

FEMUR
(to himself)
(111) Man, that's nasty!

Femur notices a GREYISH AREA slowly radiating outward on the ground around the generator, sapping energy from the lichens and causing several BONE WARRIORS to crumble to dust.

FEMUR
(112) Wha...? That's nastier! Yo, Beast babe! What's going on?

Lamprey's maniacal laughter is answer enough.

FEMUR (CONT'D)
(113) The kid was right! I've been double crossed!

Another Alliance ship EXPLODES against the forcefield, as we:

FADE OUT.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. BONE LANDSCAPE - DAY

The sky is filled with ROARING Beast ships which STRAFE everything in sight. BEAST GROUND TROOPS swarm over the landscape, devastating the unprepared BONE WARRIORS. The Grey Death creeps out from the force-field while Femur frets.

FEMUR
(114) Somethin' tells me I backed the wrong Beast!

Lamprey LAUGHS and points a finger at Femur, dispatching a host of DRONES at him.

LAMPREY
(115) Drones! Fetch me his worthless hide!

Femur dodges the Drones and dives into a hidden tunnel.

FEMUR
(116) Fuggedaboutit, nullskull!

The Drones BLAST at his heels, sealing the tunnel with a huge EXPLOSION.

CUT TO:

INT. CRYOS' SHIP - FOLLOWING

Graveheart, Jade and Cryos watch an Ice Alliance ship as it engages Drone ships in an air-battle. The Ice ship avoids the Drones but is sucked into the force field and explodes.

JADE
(117) We can't just sit here!

GRAVEHEART
(118) Cryos! What are we up against?

CRYOS
(119) Sensors indicate a forcefield generator capable of leeching energy

from the planet and converting it into a destructive shield around Bone.

GRAVEHEART
(120) Then we have to destroy the generator before our entire fleet is caught in its pull.

CUT TO:

EXT. BONE BATTLEFIELD - FOLLOWING

The Grey Death continues to creep out from the generator, sucking the life from everything it touches. BONE TROOPS and BONE DRONES fall before the superior BEAST FORCES.

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - FOLLOWING

Femur watches the devastation from a bank of HOLOGRAMS. He focuses on one which displays Pyrus being escorted down the throne room hallway by a pair of Beast Drones. Femur pushes several buttons, and the hallway's lichens twist into BONE DRONES, which overpower and destroy the Beast Drones.

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM HALLWAY - FOLLOWING

Pyrus blinks as the lichens return to the walls.

PYRUS
(121) Yes! Finally, a break!

Before Pyrus can enjoy his liberation, a swarm of BEAST DRONES boil towards him from the end of the hall.

CUT TO:

INT. CRYOS' SHIP - FOLLOWING

A light FLASHES in the comm-board.

JADE
(123) Incoming message from... Femur?

FEMUR (FILTERED)
(124) Excuse me! But if you're not busy getting your butts kicked, you might wanna rescue the kid.

JADE
(125) Coordinates coming through now.

Thanks. Toad.

FEMUR
(126) You're welcome...I think.

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM HALLWAY - FOLLOWING

Pyrus is cornered by the Beast Drones. He is holding them at bay with his staff when suddenly the wall explodes and Graveheart, Jade and Cryos enter and BLAST the Drones.

Pyrus gives them a smile.

GRAVEHEART
(127) Welcome back, Prince. So how do you like your first diplomatic mission?

PYRUS
(128) Its not as boring as I thought it would be. Hey, has anybody seen Femur?

GRAVEHEART
(129) Actually, he told us where to find you. It looks like you made an impression on him, after all.

Pyrus' beaming smile fades as Jade speaks up.

JADE
(130) This isn't over yet. Femur still has time to sell us out.

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - FOLLOWING

Femur watches a HOLOGRAM as Lamprey gloats in the carnage.

LAMPREY (FILTERED)
(131) See, Femur? We reign supreme. With Blokk and his drones protecting the generator, any hope for survival is just an illusion.

FEMUR
(132) Yeah, yeah, cram it up... hey! That's it! Thanks for the clue, babe!

Femur's fingers dance across his throne controls. Beams of light begin to weave a holographic mirage.

CUT TO:

INT. CRYOS SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Femur comes on screen.

FEMUR (FILTERED)
(133) Cryos, when I give the word, I want you to hit that generator with everything you got!

CRYOS
(134) We can't get near it. It is protected by overwhelming numbers of Beast Drones.

FEMUR (FILTERED)
(135) I got it covered this time. Trust me!

PYRUS
(136) Give him a chance. I believe him.

GRAVEHEART
(137) Might as well. We're out of other options.

JADE
(138) You've got to be joking.

CRYOS
(139) I fear this is not the time for levity.

CUT TO:

EXT. BONE BATTLEFIELD - CONTINUOUS

Cryos' vessel hurtles towards the generator, which is guarded by a mass of Beast Ships. The Aurora BLASTS and WEAVES, fighting heroically against overwhelming odds.

GRAVEHEART
(140) Whatever Femur has in mind, he'd better act soon.

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A miniature armada of Bone ships hovers in front of Femur, beams of laser light weaving a holographic illusion.

FEMUR
(141) Smoke and mirrors, Beast babe. You said it yourself. Well, eat hologram!

Femur pushes a button on his control arm.

CUT TO:

EXT. BONE BATTLEFIELD - CONTINUOUS

The Bone 'Armada' appears over the generator. Blokk reacts.

BLOKK
(142) What? All ships, engage the attackers! Protect the generator!

Blokk’s forces converge on the Bone 'ships', leaving the generator open to an assault from our heroes.

INT. CRYOS SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Graveheart points ahead.

GRAVEHEART
(143) There’s our opening!

EXT. BONE BATTLEFIELD - CONTINUOUS

Cryos' ship FIRES on the generator, which EXPLODES into flaming shards. The Beast Ships swarm in confusion as our heroes press the attack. The tide of battle turns as:

EXT. BONE SKY - CONTINUOUS

The force-field COLLAPSES and the Alliance forces enter the atmosphere, swooping down on the Beast forces and demolishing them in a spectacular show of firepower. Blokk and Lamprey flee.

INT. CRYOS SHIP - FOLLOWING

Our heroes raise a cheer.

PYRUS
(144) We did it! I knew Femur would come through!

Jade BLASTS at a retreating Beast Ship.

JADE
(145) I’ll never trust that smirking toad.

WIPE TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - LATER

Femur confers with the Alliance leaders.

FEMUR
(146) Good thing I was here to pull your butts out of the fire.

CRYOS
(147) Interesting notion, considering you put them there in the first place.

FEMUR
(148) You know, maybe your alliance ain't so bad, after all.

PYRUS
(149) So you'll join us? Great! I knew you would.

Femur walks up to Jade.

FEMUR
(150) So whaddaya say, sweetheart? Friends?

JADE
(151) Betray us again and perish.

FEMUR
(152) I knew you liked me.

Femur turns to Graveheart.

FEMUR
(153) What's a matter, Graveheart, Chisel got your tongue?

GRAVEHEART
(154) No. Now that the Alliance is set, let the Beast beware!

Jade glares at Femur as the planet leaders clasp hands in Fantastic four style.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANET REMORA - NIGHT

Blokk and Lamprey lick their wounds under the baleful gaze of VOYD.

BLOKK
(mocking)
(155) Force is not the answer, Blokk. See how well things work out when you play it my way, Blokk?

Blokk glances over nervously at the impassive Voyd.

BLOKK (CONT'D)
(156) I don't think Voyd is particularly happy with this outcome.

Lamprey shrinks against the unblinking eye of Voyd.

LAMPREY
(157) My folly was to trust a weak mind. But there is one of those fools who may yet prove useful to our ends...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. STASIS TUBE ON PLANET ICE - SIMULTANEOUS

Tekla lies in frozen slumber, an unwitting pawn to Lamprey's evil machinations.

LAMPREY (VO)
(158) I believe they call her...Tekla.

We hear the witch's LAUGHTER as we:

FADE OUT.

END EPISODE